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PRESS RELEASE

COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF THE STATE AND REFUSES TO ISSUE STAY ORDER

Attorney General "Buddy" Caldwell and Governor Bobby Jindal opposed the request of the Federal Government for a stay of the injunction issued by the District Court against the Federal moratorium on deepwater drilling. Today, the Attorney General's office joined with counsel for other opponents of the stay in argument before the Federal Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals that the stay is not warranted. At 5:20 p.m. today, the Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the State and refused to issue a stay order.

"We are very pleased with the Court's ruling and look forward to argument on the merits of the injunction, set for hearing by the Court of Appeals for the week of August 30." said Attorney General Caldwell. "We will oppose any moratorium on drilling proposed by the Federal Government. Furthermore, it appears that other steps may have to be taken to challenge the slow permitting and rulemaking which the Federal Government is undertaking to effectively stop the initiation of deepwater drilling." said Caldwell.

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